

44683 and 44684—Continued.

Tactic, in the Department of Alta Vera Paz. Since the altitude is about 6,000 feet, the plant should be slightly hardy, and may succeed in California as well as in Florida. It reaches a height of about 8 feet; its leaves are narrow and about 3 inches long; the flowers are borne in long spikes and are individually about half an inch in diameter and bright purple in color. The plant is used by the Indians in place of soap; the leaves when macerated in water making green suds." (*Popenoe*.)

44684. RONDELETIA RUFESCENS Robinson. Rubiaceæ.

"(No. 103. From Chitzuhai, near Tactic, Alta Vera Paz. April 17, 1917.) A handsome pink-flowered shrub from the mountains north of Tactic, near the settlement of Chitzuhai, Alta Vera Paz, at an altitude of more than 6,000 feet. This plant grows among second-growth timber, where there is an abundance of sunlight. It is slender in habit, reaching a height of 8 feet or more, and bears large corymbs of small, exceedingly fragrant flowers of a delicate shell-pink color. It seems well worthy of a trial in California and Florida." (*Popenoe*.)

44685. ASTILBE TAQUETI Vilm. Saxifragaceæ.

From Paris, France. Plants purchased from Vilmorin-Andrieux & Co. Received May 16, 1917.

A very robust perennial herb, 2 to 2½ feet in height, with tripinnate, finely and doubly dentate leaves, and panicles of reddish purple flowers borne on stout flowering stems in July. The flowering stems are covered with long red hairs which are especially abundant on young growth. The plant may be propagated from the abundant seeds, but if placed near closely related species there would be danger of hybridization. (Adapted from *Revuc Horticole*, December 16, 1916.)

44686 to 44688.

From China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, Agricultural Explorer for the Department of Agriculture. Received at the Plant Introduction Garden, Chico, Calif., April 21, 1917. Quoted notes by Mr. Meyer.

44686. AMYGDALUS DAVIDIANA (Carr.) Zabel. Amygdalaceæ. **Peach.**
(*Prunus davidiana* Franch.)

"(No. 2328a. Peking, China, December 15, 1916.) Stones of the *dauidiana* peach gathered in Chihli Province by various Chinese collectors and purchased from them. To be grown as stock for various stone fruits in the semiarid regions in the United States."

44687. ZIZIPHUS JUJUBA Mill. Rhamnaceæ. **Jujube.**
(*Z. sativa* Gaertn.)

"(No. 2329a. Peking, China, December 16, 1916.) Small dried jujube fruits, selected for good kernels, purchased in the open market at Peking. To be grown for stocks for improved varieties."

44688. DIOSPYROS LOTUS L. Diospyraceæ. **Persimmon.**

"(No. 2331a. Peking, China, December 16, 1916.) Dry *ghoorma* fruits full of seeds, purchased in the open market at Peking. To be distributed among growers of oriental persimmons in semiarid sections of the United States as a drought and alkali resistant stock. Chinese name *Hei tsao* (black jujube), which is a misnomer."